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Cassette case

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(54) Inventor(s)
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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Patents Act 1952

APPLICATION FOR A STANDARD PATENT

We, AMARAY INTERNATIONAL PTY. LTD. of Suite 1/1 Johnston Lane, Lane Cove, New South Wales, 2066, Australia, hereby apply for the grant of a standard patent for an invention entitled:

"CASSETTE CASE"

which is described in the accompanying provisional specification.

Our address for service is:

PETER MAXWELL & ASSOCIATES
Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys
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DATED this 5th day of February, 1990

AMARAY INTERNATIONAL PTY.
LTD.
By their Patent Attorneys
PETER MAXWELL & ASSOCIATES

TF. Maxwell

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(12) PATENT ABSTRACT (11) Document No AU-A-68615/91
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(74) Attorney or Agent
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(57) Claim

1. A protective case for video cassettes and the like comprising a cover having an opening adapted to receive slideably the cassette and the like therethrough and a pair of flexible inwardly protruding members at opposite ends of the said opening, the arrangement being such that the protruding members are displaced or distorted so as to allow insertion or withdrawal of the cassette or the like into or from the cover as the case may be and that once the cassette or the like is fully received within the cover, the protruding members are returned to a resting position adapted to restrain the cassette or the like from slipping out from the cover.



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Form 10

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

(ORIGINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE

Short Title:

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TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

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Complete Specification for the invention entitled:

CASSETTE CASE

The following statement is a full description of this invention, including the best method of performing it known to me:— US

* Note: The description is to be typed in double spacing, pica type face, in an area not exceeding 250 mm in depth and 160 mm in width, on tough white paper of good quality and it is to be inserted inside this form.

The present invention relates to a protective case for video cassettes and the like.

Conventionally, video cassettes are stored in either tight fitting slide-through covers or hinged jackets.

5 The slide-through covers have an opening along one edge thereof to allow entry for the video cassette. However, during normal handling of the cover encasing the cassette, the cassette is prone to slide through the opening under gravity and fall from the cover unless the user pinches the
10 two main walls of the cover containing the cassette between finger and thumb. Retention of the cassette in conventional covers of this type therefore risks damage to the cassette whenever the user is unable to or loses proper grip of the cover.

15 Hinged jackets on the other hand require that the cassette be stored in a particular alignment for proper closure of the jacket. Furthermore, closure of the jacket is by an interference contact between adjacent walls and so any distortion of these walls may obstruct proper closure.

20 It is an object of the present invention to overcome or ameliorate the disadvantages of the prior art.

 According to the invention there is provided a protective case for video cassettes and the like comprising a cover having an opening adapted to receive slideably the
25 cassette and the like therethrough and a pair of flexible inwardly protruding members at opposite ends of the said opening, the arrangement being such that the protruding

members are displaced or distorted so as to allow insertion or withdrawal of the cassette or the like into or from the cover as the case may be and that once the cassette or the like is fully received within the cover, the protruding members are returned to a resting position adapted to restrain the cassette or the like from slipping out from the cover.

In order that the invention may be more readily understood and put into practical effect, reference will be made to the accompanying drawings, in which:-

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a protective case according to a preferred embodiment of the invention holding a video cassette therewithin,

Fig. 2 is an end elevational view as seen from the opening of the case of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is a top view of the case of Fig. 1,

Fig. 4 is a partly broken away detailed view of the region of the case and cassette of Fig. 1 identified by X, and

Fig. 5 is partly broken away perspective view of the region of the case and cassette shown in Fig. 4.

The protective case 10 shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 consists of a cover 11 having side walls 12 and 13, end walls 14 and 15 and a bottom wall 16 all constructed of clear polypropylene and secured together by adhesive. The cover 11 has an opening 17 to receive a video cassette 18 therethrough.

Each edge of the side walls 12 and 13 closest to the opening 17 is cut away to form a groove (only groove 19 of side wall 12 shown in Fig. 1). Each groove exposes a region of the video cassette 18 which can be gripped by the user before pulling the cassette 18 from the cover 11.

A central rectangular portion is removed from the side wall 12, to produce a window 20 through which advertising placed on the corresponding portion of the cassette may be clearly seen. Each side wall 12 and 13 has breathing holes 21 located adjacent the bottom wall 16.

Portions of each of the end walls 14 and 15 closest to the opening 17 are cut away as shown in Figs. 3 and 5 to form flexible members 22 and 23. A pair of triangular prism shaped teeth 24 and 25 are each secured by adhesive to the inner surface of each of the flexible members 22 and 23 nearest the opening 17 to provide flexible inwardly protruding members 26 and 27 that may grip the video cassette 18 when positioned within the cover 11 and may be displaced outwardly when the cassette 18 is being inserted or withdrawn.

Fig. 4 shows by reference to the dotted lines and the arrow A, the extent of outward displacement of the flexible inwardly protruding member 26 during insertion or withdrawal of the cassette 18 from the cover 11.

It is therefore apparent that the protective case of the invention will effectively restrain the video cassette or the like contained therewithin from slipping out of the

cover, even in circumstances where the cassette would normally be expected to fall therefrom under its own weight.

Various modifications may be made in details of design and construction without departing from the scope or ambit of the invention.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

1. A protective case for video cassettes and the like comprising a cover having an opening adapted to receive slideably the cassette and the like therethrough and a pair of flexible inwardly protruding members at opposite ends of the said opening, the arrangement being such that the protruding members are displaced or distorted so as to allow insertion or withdrawal of the cassette or the like into or from the cover as the case may be and that once the cassette or the like is fully received within the cover, the protruding members are returned to a resting position adapted to restrain the cassette or the like from slipping out from the cover.
2. The protective case of claim 1 wherein the cover includes a pair of opposed rectangular end walls and the said protruding members are integral with the end walls.
3. The protective case of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein each of the said protruding members includes an inwardly protruding triangular prism shaped tooth member.
4. The protective case of any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the cover includes a pair of opposed rectangular side walls and a portion of each side wall closest to the opening is cut away to form a groove.
5. The protective case of claim 4 wherein the groove is substantially semi-circular in shape.
6. The protective case of claim 4 or claim 5 wherein one of the side walls includes a window.

7. The protective case of any one of claims 4 to 6 wherein the cover includes a bottom wall opposite to the opening and each side wall has breathing holes adjacent the bottom wall.

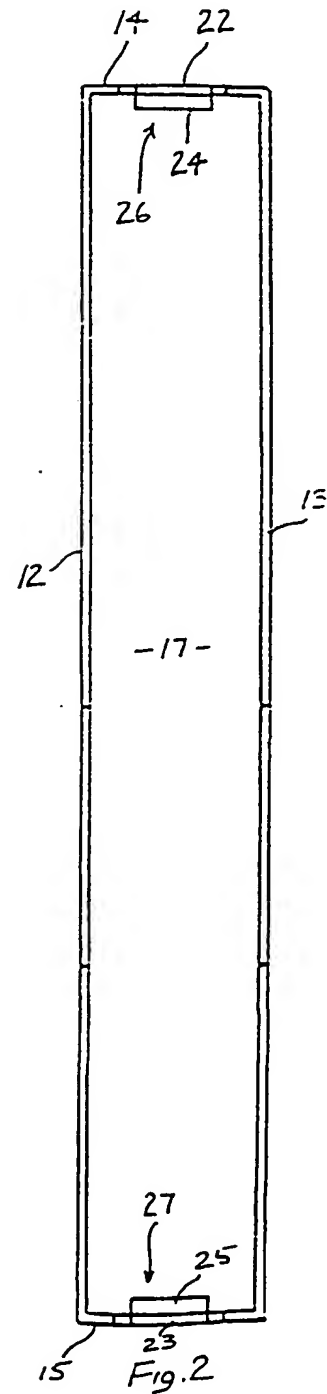
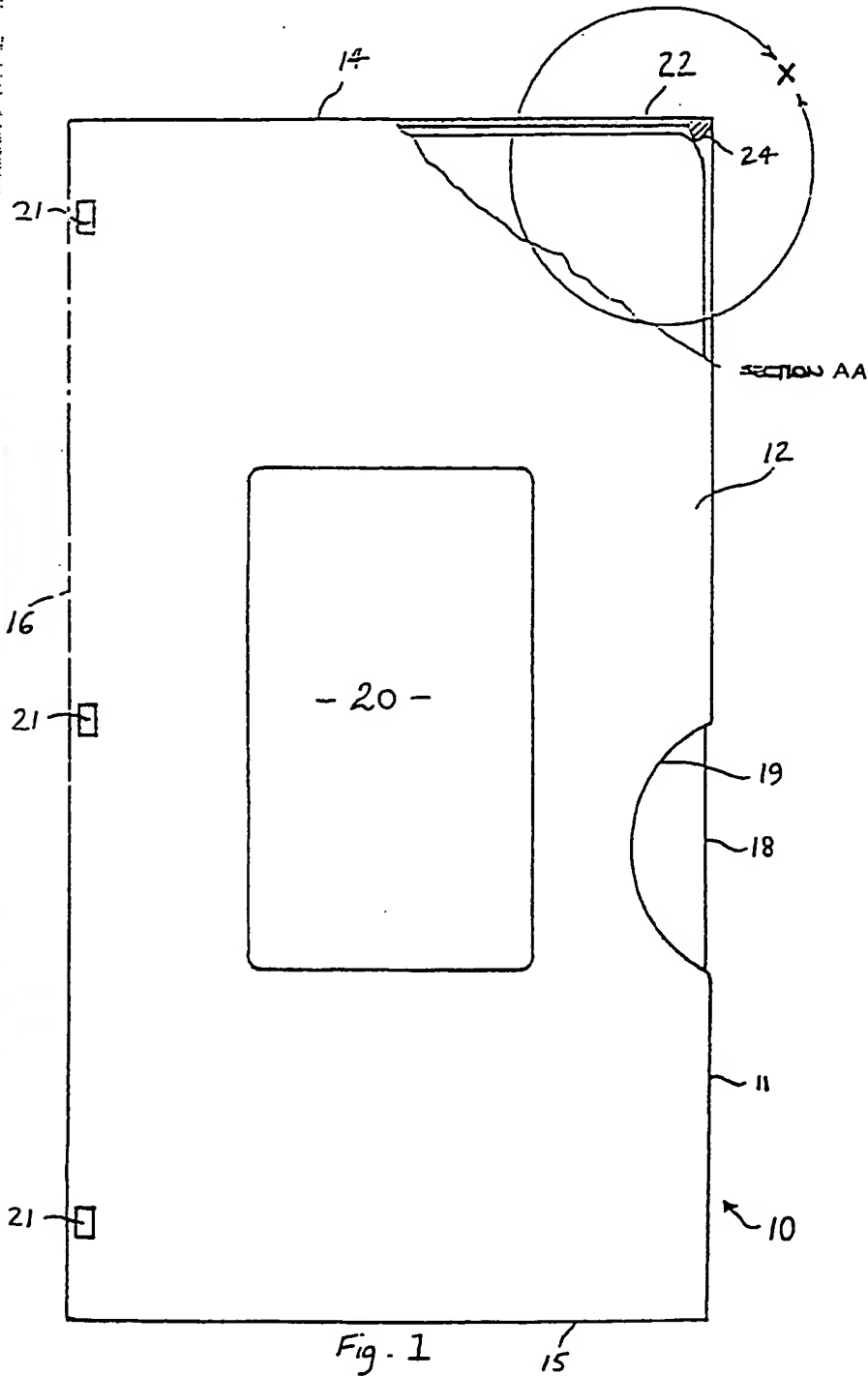
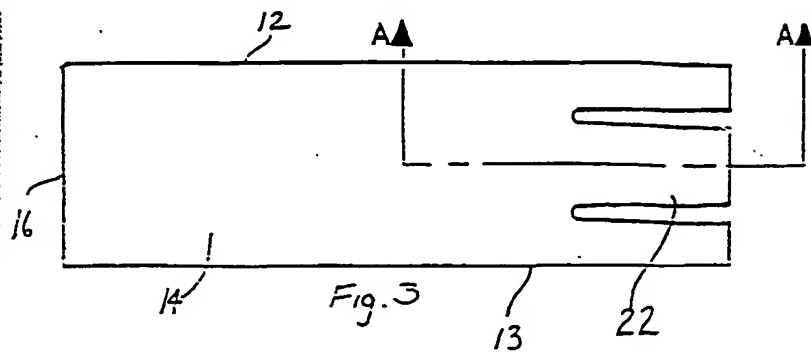
8. A protective case for video cassettes and the like substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

DATED this 31st day of December, 1990

AMARAY INTERNATIONAL PTY LIMITED

By their Patent Attorneys

PETER MAXWELL & ASSOCIATES



68615/91

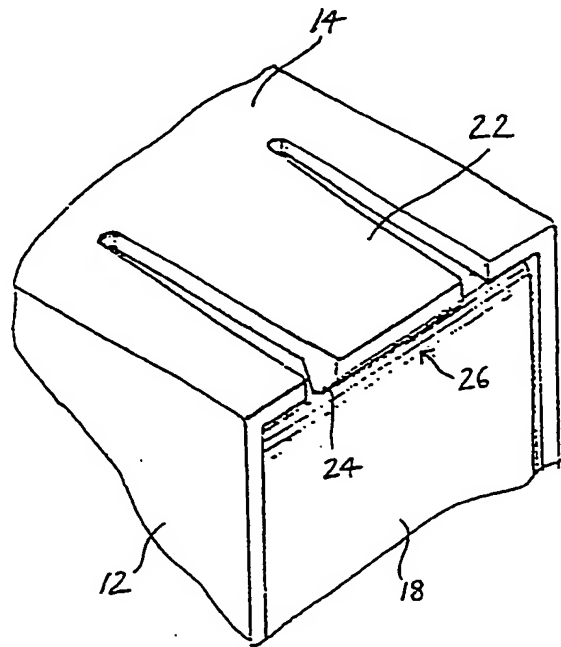


Fig. 5

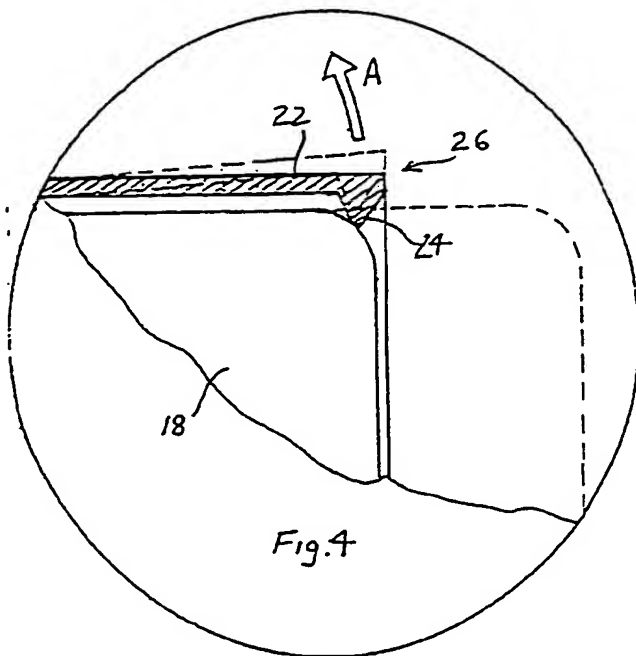


Fig. 4

DETAIL X